

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-58 (cancelled)

59 (currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising, in operable linkage:

(a) a fusion gene comprising a first selectable gene and an amplifiable second selectable gene; ~~[[and]] (b)~~
a selected sequence encoding a desired product; and (c) a promoter, ~~the selected sequence operably linked~~
~~to the amplifiable selectable gene and to a promoter.~~

60 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is selected from the group of consisting of the genes encoding dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) and the gene encoding glutamine synthetase.

61 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 60, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is the gene encoding dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) gene.

62 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 61, wherein the first selectable gene of the fusion gene is not amplifiable.

63 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 62, wherein the ~~first~~ first selectable gene of the fusion is selectable independent of the amplifiable second selectable gene.

64 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim ~~[[62]]~~ 59, wherein the first selectable gene is an antibiotic resistance gene.

65 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 64, wherein the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance.

66 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the fusion gene comprises an antibiotic resistance gene fused to ~~the~~ a gene encoding DHFR-gene.

67 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the fusion gene is positioned within an intron between the promoter and the selected sequence, the intron defined by a 5' splice donor site ~~comprising a splice donor sequence~~ and a 3' splice acceptor site.

68 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 67, wherein the intron provides a splicing efficiency of between 80% and 99%~~efficiency of splicing a messenger RNA having the splice donor sequence is between about 80% and 99% as determined by quantitative PCR.~~

69 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 68, wherein the intron provides a splicing efficiency of at least 95%.

70 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 67, ~~wherein the fusion gene is positioned within the intron and~~ wherein the fusion gene and selected sequence are operably linked to the promoter ~~5' of the intron.~~

71 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 67, further comprising an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) between the selected sequence and the fusion gene, ~~wherein the selected sequence and fusion gene are operably linked to the promoter 5' of the selected sequence.~~

72 (currently amended): ~~The polynucleotide of claim 59, further~~ A polynucleotide comprising: a first transcription unit comprising a first promoter, a first selected sequence encoding a desired gene product positioned 3' to the promoter, and a fusion gene positioned 3' to the promoter, wherein the fusion gene comprises a first selectable gene and an amplifiable second selectable gene, wherein the first selected sequence is operably linked to the fusion gene and the first promoter; and a second transcriptional unit comprising ~~one or more additional~~ a second promoter and a second selected sequences encoding a desired product, wherein the second selected sequence is operably linked to the second promoter~~the one or more additional selected sequences operably linked to an amplifiable selectable gene and to a promoter.~~

73 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 72, further comprising a first intron positioned between the first promoter and the first selected sequence, and a second intron positioned between the second promoter and the second selected sequence, wherein each of the first and the second introns is defined by a 5' splice donor site and a 3' splice acceptor site providing a splicing efficiency of at least 95%~~wherein the first selected sequence encoding a first desired product is operably linked to a first promoter and a second selected sequence encoding a second desired product is linked to a second promoter.~~

74 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim ~~[[73]]~~72, wherein the first and second promoters are the same type of promoter.

75 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the first and second promoters are from SV40.

76 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the first and second promoters are from CMV.

77 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim ~~[[73]]~~72, wherein at least one of the promoters is inducible.

78 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 77, wherein each of the promoters is inducible.

79 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the promoter is the human cytomegalovirus immediate early (CMV) promoter.

80 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the selected sequence encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of cytokines, lymphokines, enzymes, antibodies, and receptors.

81 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 80, wherein the selected sequence encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

82 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim [[73]]72, wherein the first selected sequence encodes an immunoglobulin heavy chain and the second selected sequence encodes an immunoglobulin light chain.

83 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim [[73]]72, wherein the first selected sequence encodes one polypeptide chain of a multichain receptor, and the second selected sequence encodes a second polypeptide chain of the receptor.

84 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 59 that replicates in a eukaryotic host cell.

85 (original): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 59.

86 (original): The host cell of claim 85, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

87 (original): The host cell of claim 86 wherein the mammalian cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

88 (currently amended): The host cell of claim 87, wherein the amplifiable selectable gene is the gene encoding DHFR, the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance, gene and the CHO cell has a DHFR- phenotype.

89 (original): The host cell of claim 86, wherein the desired product is selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

90 (original): A kit comprising a container containing the polynucleotide of claim 59.

91 (original): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 59 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

92 (original): The method of claim 91 wherein the desired product is recovered from the culture medium.

93 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 72 that replicates in a eukaryotic host cell.

94 (original): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 72.

95 (original): The host cell of claim 94, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

96 (original): The host cell of claim 95 wherein the mammalian cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

97 (currently amended): The host cell of claim 96, wherein the amplifiable selectable gene is the gene encoding DHFR, the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance, gene and the CHO cell has a DHFR- phenotype.

98 (original): The host cell of claim 95, wherein the desired product is selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

99 (original): A kit comprising a container containing the polynucleotide of claim 72.

100 (original): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 72 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

101 (original): The method of claim 100 wherein the desired product is recovered from the culture medium.

102 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein the first selected gene encodes a heavy chain of an anti-HER2 receptor antibody and the second selected gene encodes a light chain of an anti-HER2 receptor antibody.

103 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 102, wherein the anti-HER2 receptor antibody is HERCEPTIN®.

104 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 102, wherein the anti-HER2 receptor antibody is 2C4.

105 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the first selectable gene is a fluorescent protein gene.

106 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the fusion gene comprises a gene encoding puromycin resistance fused to a gene encoding DHFR.

107 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 106, wherein the gene encoding puromycin resistance is 5' to the gene encoding DHFR.

108 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the fusion gene comprises a fluorescent protein gene fused to a gene encoding DHFR.

109 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein the fusion gene comprises a gene encoding puromycin resistance fused to a gene encoding DHFR.

110 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 109, wherein the gene encoding puromycin resistance is 5' to the gene encoding DHFR.

111 (new): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 107.

112 (new): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 107 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select

and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

113 (new): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 110.

114 (new): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 110 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

115 (new): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the selected sequence is operably linked to the amplifiable selectable gene and to the promoter.

116 (new) The polynucleotide of claim 59, further comprising a second selected sequence encoding a second desired product, operably linked to a second promoter.